

mersion. Matt. 28 : 19. Rom. 6 : 3 5.

5. The washing of the Saints' feet. See John 13 chap. 1st Tim. 5 : 10.

6. The Lord's Supper, consisting of a meal, in connection with Cup and Loaf.

7. War and Retaliation are contrary to the "Gospel" of Jesus Christ.

8. Non-Conformity to the world's sinful maxims, and customs is essential to christian character.

9. The duty enjoined (James 5 : 14) should not be neglected.

10. The Scriptural salutation should be observed. Rom. 16 : 16. 2 Cor. 13 : 12. 1 Thess. 5 : 26. 1 Peter 5 : 14.

Our motto, "The Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible ; as the man of our council, and as the rule of our faith and practice."

The "Gospel" contains enough, but not too much for man's salvation. Hence will not admit of an application of the mathematical rules of Addition and Subtraction.

We have now found that there is a system of faith and practice. A course of procedure laid down in the word of God, that is preached and practiced by a class professing Christianity that is in harmony with reason and good common sense, that with a proper consideration, the judgment of an accountable being is compelled to assent to as being absolutely, positively and infallibly safe. May God's blessing rest upon the truth, as given in His word. Concluded.

Toll Gate, W. Va.

#### THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN CALIFORNIA.

GEORGE RONK.

The chief mission of the Brethren church is to spread the Gospel. The most effective way of doing this is to establish missions. For if we wish to reach the masses of the people we must go where the masses are.

A mission should be almost self-supporting in six months in this divinely blessed state with its mild and temperate climate. Experience at least shows this to be the case.

The Stockton mission when I first visited it had only six or seven workers and it was then entirely self-supporting. It had no source of income except the collections which were taken up every night.

Seven months later it had nearly forty earnest active workers. Most of these were new converts.

The Gospel message is eagerly received by the people. The unparalleled success of the Salvation Army shows this to be the truth.

And now, brethren, why not establish a mission in Stockton or San Francisco.

By prayer and faith we may accomplish much, for the Lord said "For where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them."

There are grand prospects for a bright future for the Brethren church in California, and surely, brethren, we should make a great effort "That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store ; that our sheep may bring forth thousand and ten thousands in our streets. That our oxen may be strong to labor ; that there be no breaking in nor going out ; that there be no complaining in our streets.

Happy is the people that is in such a case, yea, happy is that people whose God is the Lord."

No man can foresee what a grand future there might be for a mission in one of our large cities.

Some people think that when Jesus said "Go ye, and teach all nations," he meant only foreign people abroad, (at least so their actions indicate,) but I believe that it meant the foreign people at home as well, for there are yet many who are foreigners to the will of God and to his Holy Word.

I believe that the church of California could alone establish a mission, which I am confident would be self-supporting in a short time. And now, brethren, let us to the work. A few dollars should not stand between us and our duty, Now is the accepted time.

If the apostles had waited till they were richer they would never have preached the Gospel as they were commanded. They left their nets and followed the Lord.

It has been said that it is easier to convert men's hearts than their purses. Let us not earn this reputation.

And couldn't we afford another evangelist? From all sides we hear the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us."

From two places near Turlock we have repeatedly heard this cry. Several times in writing and many times verbally. At one place a preacher of any description could not be obtained so they did the next best thing ; organized a Bible Society for the study of the Scriptures.

During the revival at Turlock more interest was aroused around the saloons and like places by what the preacher said than by the recent prize fight, which is saying considerable.

Surely, brethren, we should act in this matter for the harvest time is near and every hour, every minute many precious souls are lost through a long eternity.

Turlock, Calif.

Convince some men that it pays to be good, and you couldn't keep them out of the church with a shotgun.

## King's Children.

### FRUIT BEARING.—John 15 : 1-14.

TOPIC FOR MAY 30.

Monday, May 24, The Fruits, Gal. 5 : 16-26.

Tuesday, May 25, The Soil, Matt. 13 : 18-23.

Wednesday, May 26, No Fruit, Matt. 21 : 17-22.

Thursday, May 27, Fruit Time, Matt. 21 : 33-41.

Friday, May 28, Slow Fruit, Luke 13 : 1-9.

Saturday, May 29, Known by Fruit, Matt. 7 : 15-23.

There are three phases of the Christian life: 1. Salvation or birth, John 3 : 5 ; 16, 36. 2. Sanctification or growth, John 17 : 19 ; Heb. 6 : 1 ; Gal. 4 : 19 ; Phil. 3 : 13, 14. 3. Fruit bearing or results, John 15 : 8 and 16.

Many are content with salvation Others are beautiful in character but are not workers. The symmetrical Christian goes "on unto perfection" and works as he goes.

#### CONDITIONS OF FRUIT BEARING.

1. *Life.* A dead plant cannot grow, nor one dead spiritually. In Christ is this life. I John 4 : 9.

2. *Environment.* A plant must have soil, moisture, air and light. A Christian must abide in Christ. John 15 : 5. This abiding is VITAL. 6. To give up Christ is to give up hope. It is CONSTANT, v. 9. A branch does not bear sweet grapes on Sunday and sour ones on week days. It consists in obedience v. 10, and is maintained thro faith, Gal. 2 : 20 ; 3 : 11.

3. *Care.* A plant needs watering and weeding and hoeing or pruning. A Christian must observe the means of grace Prayer, Matt. 26 : 41 ; the Bible, II Timothy 3 : 16 ; church attendance, Heb. 10 : 25 ; communion service, John 6 : 56 ; good reading, II Tim. 4 : 13 ; good company, I Cor. 15 : 33 (R V.) ; good work, I Tim. 4 : 7.

#### KIND OF FRUIT.

Love, Deut. 6 : 5. Truth, I Sam. 12 : 24. Peace, John 14 : 27. Strength, Ps. 27 : 14. Joy, John 15 : 11. Diligence, Eccl. 9 : 10. Christlikeness, Phil. 1 : 21. (Make a list and have members name other kinds they have seen.)

Our Magna Charta, Gal. 5 : 16.

Memory Verses : Psalms 126 : 5, 6 ; Eccles 11 : 1 ; John 12 : 24

*Questions.* 1. What is the fruit of the Spirit? Gal. 5 : 22, 23. 2. How does abiding make us fruitful? 3. How do we know we are abiding? I John 3 : 24. 4. How can our society bear more fruit? 5. What is the greatest fruit? I Cor. 13 : 13.

#### WHAT CAN I DO.

1. Be an example, I Tim. 4 : 12. 2. Pray, James 5 : 16. 3. Encourage, Isa. 4 : 6, 7. 4. Be interested, Neh. 2 : 18. 5. Personal work, Jas. 5 : 20. 6. Minister to Christ, Matt. 25 : 34-41. 7. Testify, Ps. 107 : 2. 8. Sing, Ps. 95 : 1. 9. Take time to be holy and serve, Luke 10 : 42 ; Ps. 85 : 8.

#### SONGS SUGGESTED.

Sowing in the Morning. To the Work. Scatter Smiles and Sunshine Where are the Reapers. Will Jesus find us Watching. Little Lights. Cast thy Bread upon the Waters. I'll live for Him. Must I go and empty-handed.

(It is well sometimes just to read a song or sing but one appropriate verse or have a solo.)

#### SEED THOUGHTS.

Out of Christ we bear, not some, but absolutely no fruit. John 15 : 5.